UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1996/129
23 February 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 23 FEBRUARY 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TURKMENISTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On behalf of the Government of Turkmenistan, as the host country of the continued inter-Tajik negotiations on national reconciliation, I have the honour to request you to bring to the attention of the members of the Security Council the text of the Ashkhabat Declaration adopted at the second phase of the negotiations (see annex).

I should be grateful if you could have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Aksoltan ATAEVA
Permanent Representative

96-04276 (E) 230296 230296 260296

/...

Annex

[Original: Russian]

Ashgabat
18 February 1996

ASHGABAT DECLARATION

on the results of the second phase of inter-Tajik talks under United Nations auspices on national reconciliation

The second phase of the ongoing inter-Tajik talks under the auspices of the United Nations on national reconciliation took place in Ashgabat from 26 January to 19 February 1996. The delegation of the Republic of Tajikistan was headed by Mr. Talbak Nazarov, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan, while the delegation of the United Tajik Opposition (UTU) was headed by Mr. Haji Akbar Turajonzodah, first deputy chairman of the Islamic Revival Movement of Tajikistan. Mediation services in the course of the talks were provided by Ambassador Ramiro Piriz-Ballón, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The talks were attended by observers from the Islamic State of Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Turkmenistan, the Russian Federation, Uzbekistan and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

The delegations of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and UTU discussed frankly and in depth the political problems identified in the Protocol on the fundamental principles for establishing peace and national accord in Tajikistan, of 17 August 1995, and the proposals by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The talks on these issues will be continued.

The delegation of the Republic of Tajikistan put forward an initiative for the holding of a special session of the Majlis-i Olli (Parliament) with the participation of the UTU leadership, the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and representatives of the States and international organizations acting as observers at the inter-Tajik talks. The Government of the Republic of Tajikistan gave the United Nations an undertaking that it would fully guarantee the security of the UTU delegation, and also to extend to it the necessary immunities and privileges during the period of its stay in the Republic. The invitation to the UTU delegation was sent by the United Nations Observer Mission in Tajikistan. The special session will be convened three weeks after the conclusion of the second phase of the Ashgabat talks and will be fully publicized on the same day over radio and television and in the other mass media.

In the course of a review of the political problems, the parties discussed issues relating to the convening of a consultative forum of the peoples of Tajikistan, and prepared a text of an agreement on the subject which remains open for signature after agreement has been reached on the issue of when it will be held - before or after the signature of the General Agreement on Peace and

National Accord. In the course of the discussion of this group of problems, the issue of the establishment of a National Reconciliation Council was also discussed, but because of disagreements of principle no agreement was reached.

In the course of the talks, the parties expressed readiness to extend the validity of the Agreement on a Temporary Cease-fire and the Cessation of Other Hostile Acts on the Tajik-Afghan Border and within the Country. However, in the light of conceptual differences in the approaches to the issues associated with its implementation, no positive solution was found, and the parties agreed to continue talks on the subject.

The parties agreed to renew talks in Ashgabat at a time to be determined by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

The delegations of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and UTU, and also the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, express their deep appreciation to President S. Niyazov and the Government of Turkmenistan for their warm hospitality, the excellent conditions created for the conduct of the talks and the constant support forthcoming during them.

The parties and the Special Envoy express gratitude to the representatives of the Observer States and OSCE for their help and cooperation in the course of the talks.

The delegations of the Republic of Tajikistan and UTU express their sincere appreciation to the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations for his efforts to achieve progress in the talks.

(Signed) T. Nazarov
Head of the delegation of the
Republic of Tajikistan

(Signed) A. Turajonzodah
Head of the delegation of the
United Tajik Opposition

(Signed) R. Piriz-Ballón
Special Envoy of the Secretary-General
of the United Nations

---